

In the Senate of the United States,

September 22 (legislative day, September 17), 2008.

Resolved, That the resolution from the House of Representatives (H.J. Res. 62) entitled “Joint resolution to honor the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States, and for other purposes.”, do pass with the following

AMENDMENT:

Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Native American Her-
3 itage Day Act of 2008”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds that—

6 (1) Native Americans are the descendants of
7 the aboriginal, indigenous, native people who were
8 the original inhabitants of the United States;

9 (2) Native Americans have volunteered to serve
10 in the United States Armed Forces and have served

1 with valor in all of the Nation's military actions
2 from the Revolutionary War through the present
3 day, and in most of those actions, more Native
4 Americans per capita served in the Armed Forces
5 than any other group of Americans;

6 (3) Native Americans have made distinct and
7 significant contributions to the United States and
8 the rest of the world in many fields, including agri-
9 culture, medicine, music, language, and art, and Na-
10 tive Americans have distinguished themselves as in-
11 ventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and schol-
12 ars;

13 (4) Native Americans should be recognized for
14 their contributions to the United States as local and
15 national leaders, artists, athletes, and scholars;

16 (5) nationwide recognition of the contributions
17 that Native Americans have made to the fabric of
18 American society will afford an opportunity for all
19 Americans to demonstrate their respect and admira-
20 tion of Native Americans for their important con-
21 tributions to the political, cultural, and economic life
22 of the United States;

23 (6) nationwide recognition of the contributions
24 that Native Americans have made to the Nation will

1 encourage self-esteem, pride, and self-awareness in
 2 Native Americans of all ages;

3 (7) designation of the Friday following Thanks-
 4 giving of each year as Native American Heritage
 5 Day will underscore the government-to-government
 6 relationship between the United States and Native
 7 American governments; and

8 (8) designation of Native American Heritage
 9 Day will encourage public elementary and secondary
 10 schools in the United States to enhance under-
 11 standing of Native Americans by providing curricula
 12 and classroom instruction focusing on the achieve-
 13 ments and contributions of Native Americans to the
 14 Nation.

15 **SEC. 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIVE AMERICAN HERIT-**
 16 **AGE DAY.**

17 Congress—

18 (1) designates Friday, November 28, 2008, as
 19 “Native American Heritage Day”; and

20 (2) encourages the people of the United States,
 21 as well as Federal, State, and local governments,
 22 and interested groups and organizations to observe
 23 Native American Heritage Day with appropriate
 24 programs, ceremonies, and activities, including ac-
 25 tivities relating to—

1 (A) the historical status of Native Amer-
2 ican tribal governments as well as the present
3 day status of Native Americans;

4 (B) the cultures, traditions, and languages
5 of Native Americans; and

6 (C) the rich Native American cultural leg-
7 acy that all Americans enjoy today.

Attest:

Secretary.

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. 62

AMENDMENT